

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1-13 are rejected.

In claims 1 and 8, to clarify the scope of claims, "restricting" has been amended to "changing" the maximum length of the data packet to the predetermined limit value.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Engel, et al. (Engel) in view of DePrycker, et al (DePrycker). Claim 3 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Engel, in view of Kikinis (U.S. 6,289,389).

Applicant's claims 1 and 8 refer to the first routing unit changing a maximum length of each of the data packets to the predetermined limit value and routing the data packets and voice packets that were changed to the Internet network.

The Office Action, in the "response to arguments" section, asserts that the "restricting" may reasonably be understood to mean the system preventing a packet of a certain length from passing through.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claim is different from the cited reference because, as pointed out above, applicant's changing the maximum length of the data packet to the predetermined limit value is different from whether or not the router passes through any packets over a certain length because Applicant's claim relates to changing (including fragmenting or dividing) the data packet to the predetermined limit value. As previously pointed out this feature is supported by applicant's specification for example, page 14, lines 11-25 and page 18 starting line 7.

For example, the present invention is characterized by a routing unit changing the maximum length of the data packet to the predetermined limit value, when receiving the control packet containing the indication information for changing a maximum length of each of the data packets to a predetermined limit value and routing the changed packets and voice packets to the Internet network.

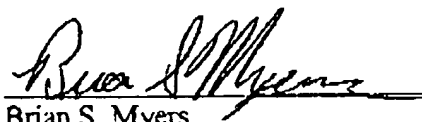
In contrast to the recited "notifying it not to pass through any packets over a certain length." Applicant claims "while changing the maximum length of the data packet to the predetermined limit value".

It is respectfully submitted applicant's claims 1 and 8 recite distinguishing features not suggested nor disclosed in the combination of cited Engel in view of DePrycker. Further the reference Kikinis fails to teach changing the length of a data packet and does not suggest routing via the Internet. Applicant's dependent claims are likewise in condition for allowance for at least the foregoing reasons and because the each recite additional features.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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